

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for delivering a lubricating and/or cooling fluid near the contact area between a tool and a workpiece being machined, comprising at least a circuit for circulation of said fluid and delivering means to deliver said fluid near, or in correspondence of, the contact area between said tool and said workpiece, characterized in that said delivering means include one or more airless nozzles to atomize said fluid in the form of a jet having a fan shaped planar configuration, said jet consisting of particles having sufficiently small and substantially homogenous dimensions.
2. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein said one or more nozzles have a delivering orifice having a diameter between 0.10 mm and 0.80 mm.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~[[3]]~~, wherein said one or more nozzles have a spray angle of the jet between 10° and 80°.
5. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein said circuit comprises means to supply said fluid to said one or more nozzles with pressures not higher than 150 bar.

6. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein said circuit comprises means to supply said fluid to said one or more nozzles with pressures between about 5 bar and about 70 bar.

7. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein said one or more nozzles are externally arranged with respect to said tool.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a lubricating and/or cooling fluid near the contact area between a tool and a workpiece being machined, wherein said fluid is supplied through a circuit and delivered near, or in correspondence of, the contact area between said tool and said workpiece, characterized in that delivering of said fluid is carried out by its atomization through one or more airless nozzles to form a jet having a fan shaped planar configuration, said jet consisting of particles having sufficiently small and substantially homogenous dimensions.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said one or more nozzles have a delivering orifice having diameter between 0.10 mm and 0.80 mm.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[11]]9, wherein said one or more nozzles have a spray angle of the jet between 10° and 80°.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said fluid is supplied to said one or more nozzles with pressures not higher than 150 bar.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said fluid is supplied to said one or more nozzles with pressures between about 5 bar and about 70 bar.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein delivering of said fluid by atomization is provided externally to said tool.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a lubricating and/or cooling fluid near the contact area between a tool and a workpiece being machined, comprising at least a circuit for circulation of said fluid and one or more airless nozzles to deliver said fluid near, or in correspondence of, the contact area between said tool and said workpiece, said one or more airless nozzles being structured and configured to atomize said fluid in the form of a jet having a fan shaped planar configuration, said jet consisting of particles having sufficiently small and substantially homogenous dimensions.